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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

HACKL et al.

Serial No.: 10/713,640

Filed: November 13, 2003

Atty. File No.: 4764-32

For: "METHOD FOR THIOSULFATE  
LEACHING OF PRECIOUS  
METAL-CONTAINING  
MATERIALS"

) Group Art Unit: 1754

) Examiner: Fiorito, James

) Confirmation No.: 1650

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON <u>7/12/06</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.</p> <p>BY: <u>Christine Jacquet</u></p>
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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references cited on attached Form PTO-SB08 are being called to the attention of the Examiner.

- ☒ Copies of the cited non-patent and/or foreign references are enclosed herewith.
- ☐ Copies of the cited U.S. patents and/or patent applications are enclosed herewith.
- ☒ Copies of the cited U.S. patents/patent application publications are not enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a).
- ☒ Other: Attached is a copy of the International Search Report for the counterpart PCT application PCT/IB 03/06475 dated June 30, 2006.

Submission of the above information is not intended as an admission that any item is citable under the statutes or rules to support a rejection, that any item disclosed represents analogous art, or that those skilled in the art would refer to or recognize the pertinence of any reference without the benefit of hindsight, nor should an inference be drawn as to the pertinence of the references based on the order in which they are presented. Submission of this statement should not be taken as an indication that a search has been conducted, or that no better art exists.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and the references made of record therein.

### FEES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>37 CFR 1.97(b):</b> No fee is believed due in connection with this submission, because the information disclosure statement submitted herewith is satisfies one of the following conditions ("X" indicates satisfaction):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), or</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 or</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.</li> </ul> <p>Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to Deposit Account 19-1970.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>37 CFR 1.97(c):</b> The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after all the above conditions (37 CFR 1.97(b)), but before the mailing date of one of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113 or</li> <li>(2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, or</li> <li>(3) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.</li> </ul> <p>This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e). Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to Deposit Account 19-1970.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account 19-1970 in the amount of \$180.00 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement. Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account 19-1970.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>37 CFR 1.97(d):</b> This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(c).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> This information Disclosure Statement includes a Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Applicants hereby requests consideration of the reference(s) disclosed herein. Please charge Deposit Account 19-1970 in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account 19-1970. Election to pay the fee should not be taken as an indication that applicant(s) cannot execute a certification.</li> </ul>

**Certification (37 C.F.R. 1.97(e))**  
(Applicable only if checked)

☐ The undersigned certifies that:

☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1).

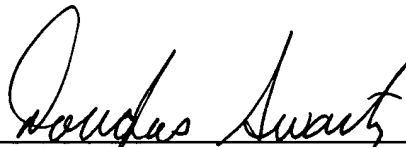
☐ A copy of the communication from the foreign patent office is enclosed.

OR

☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 12, 2006

SHEET 1 OF 1

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 4764-32	SERIAL NO. 10/713,640
	APPLICANT HACKL et al.	
	FILING DATE November 13, 2003	GROUP ART 1754

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROP.
	AA	4,411,612	10/25/1983	Holland	425	365	
	AB	4,256,706	03/17/1981	Heinen	423	29	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AC	AU 200232990	10/17/2002	Australia	C22B	011/08		
	AD	CA 2 315 480	02/13/2001	Canada	C22B	11/00		
	AE	WO 01/36333	05/25/2001	PCT	C01G	1/12		

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AF	Adams, M.D. et al., "Characterization and Blinding of Carbonaceous Preg-Robbers in Gold Ores", Minerals Engineering, Pergamon Press, Oxford, Great Britain, Vol. 11 No. 10, October 1998, pages 919-927.
	AG	Bartlett, Robert W, "Metal Extraction from Ores by Heap Leaching", Metallurgical and Materials Transactions B: Process Metallurgy and Materials Processing Science, TMS, Warrendale, PA, Vol. 28B, No. 4, August 1997, pages 529-545.
	AH	Molleman, Ellen et al., "The Treatment of Copper-Gold Ores by Ammonium Thiosulfate Leaching", Hydrometallurgy, Elsevier Science, Vol. 66 No. 1-3, October 2002, pages 1-21.
	AI	International Search Report for counterpart PCT application PCT/IB 03/06475 dated June 30, 2006.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	